

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EFFECTIVE TRANSITIONS IN ADULT EDUCATION
Providence, RI, November 17-18, 2008
Conference Impressions**

Attendees:

Susan Sheehan, Parma CS ABLE, 5311 Longwood Avenue, Parma, OH 44134

The two-day event consisted of plenary sessions and a variety of workshop sessions. The following table gives an overview of the conference schedule:

Monday, November 17	Tuesday, November 18
Workshop Session I	Workshop Session IV
Keynote Presentation	Workshop Session V
Workshop Session II	Keynote Presentation
Workshop Session III	Workshop Session VI

This document is designed to give those not attending a snapshot of the conference, along with anecdotal information from some of the Ohio participants. The document is organized around the session name, session description, presenter information, a list of handouts, and the attendees' impression. The sessions appear in the following order:

- **Workshop Session I:**
Session Name- Partnerships and Creative Collaborations for Adult Education
Session Presenter: Jose Cruz
Presenter Information: see program
Session Description: see program
Handouts for this session include...Power Point, Managing Complex Change Chart
Attended by: Susan Sheehan
Session Impressions: Jose L. Cruz, CEO of the San Diego Literacy Council, discussed how to manage complex change in an organization and in a system. He also discussed the basics of successful collaboration and partnerships. Cruz provided a self-assessment tool that can help determine if an organization will be a beneficial partner. Another activity offered a three step practice in crafting a successful mission statement:
 - 1) Who? Name the entity
 - 2) Does what? List one or two essentials
 - 3) To solve or improve what?

- **Keynote Presentation**

- **Workshop Session II:**

Session Name- Career Planning: Key to College Transition

Session Presenter: Carol Bower and Martha Oesch

Presenter Information: see program

Session Description: see program

Handouts for this session include... SABES/NCTN Curriculum Guide for Integrating Career Awareness into the ABE/ESOL Classroom.

Attended by Susan Sheehan

Session Impressions: The presenters, Carol Bower and Martha Oesch, demonstrated how to integrate career awareness into a curriculum. They explained the steps of the career planning process and how to guide students through the process. Most importantly, they distributed and walked participants through the complete SABES/NCTN Curriculum Guide for Integrating Career Awareness into the ABE/ESOL Classroom.

- **Workshop Session III:**

Session Name- Creating a Successful Adult Education/College Partnership in Ten Easy Steps

Session Presenter: Julie Scoskie

Presenter Information: see program

Session Description: see program

Handouts for this session include...Power Point

Attended by Susan Sheehan

Session Impressions: Julie Scoskie, Director of Adult and Continuing Education for the Jefferson County Public Schools of Louisville, KY, walked participants through the history and need for a successful transition program for adults in Louisville, KY. Scoskie also provided a Ten Step process that she used to develop a successful transition program for her adult learners. This process includes forming an advisory council, reviewing data, meeting with stakeholders, developing an MOU, collaborating with faculty, re-branding basic adult education, piloting the partnership, collecting data, communicating, continuing to adapt and refine, and finally, to market successful results..

- **Workshop Session IV:**

Session Name- Our Mission is Transition

Session Presenter: Donna Miller-Parker and Sarah Baldwin

Presenter Information: see program

Session Description: see program

Handouts for this session include...Student Portfolio Checklist

Attended by Susan Sheehan

Session Impressions: The presenters, Donna Miller-Parker and Sarah Baldwin, shared the strategies they used to encourage student transition to post secondary education/training. Included were: Awareness and Orientation Activities, College Counseling Activities and Referral Services, and Academic Preparation and Support for Transition.

A Transition Day is offered to the students each quarter that includes workshops which focus on a college's academic program and a college's student services. Besides these electives, a large group meeting is also scheduled in the auditorium where successful students are brought in to tell their stories.

In addition, a College Night is offered each year. Students prepare in advance for this event through the curriculum in the program so that they are confident in meeting college representatives and viewing college materials. Students are encouraged to bring family members to this event.

- **Workshop Session V:**

Session Name- Update on OVAE's Ready for College

Session Presenter Christopher Coro

Presenter Information: see program

Session Description: see program

Handouts for this session include...Diagrams of each of the four funded projects

Attended by Susan Sheehan

Session Impressions: Christopher Coro, from the US Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education, presented an update on OVAE's Ready for College (RFC)-Adult Transitions Program. Coro explained the purpose of the program "to support state and local efforts to increase the rate at which adults (18-24) successfully complete adult secondary education (ASE) ready to transition to post-secondary education." Coro also supplied the background details which led to the development of this project and then discussed the particulars of the four funded program models: the Kansas Model, the Essex Community College (NJ) Model, the Colorado Model, and the North Carolina Model.

- **Keynote Presentation**

- **Workshop Session VI**

Session Name- Welcome to "Smooth Transitions" (ABE to College)

Session Presenter: Kermit Dunkelberg, Michele Sedor, and Robin Hodgkinson

Presenter Information: see program

Session Description: see program

Handouts for this session include...Draft Curriculum

Attended by Susan Sheehan

Session Impressions: Kermit Dunkelberg, Michele Sedor, and Robin Hodgkinson, three members of the Holyoke Community College's "Smooth Transitions" Working Group, shared the planning, implementation, successes, and challenges of the "Smooth Transitions" Program. They also suggested Ten Tips for others to follow to successfully replicate the project. A draft curriculum module for College Awareness/Readiness was distributed and the discussed.

Session handouts have been scanned and are listed on the last page.

Keynote Presentation: *[Title]*

Session Description:

Presenter information:

The **handout** for this presentation was...

Session Impressions:

[Participant Names]:

Workshop Session I: *[Title]*

Session Description:

Presenter Information:

Handouts for this session include...

Session Impressions, [Participant Name]:

SESSION HANDOUTS AVAILABLE

- **Keynote Presentation:** *[Title]*
- **Workshop Session I**
- **Workshop Session II**
- **Workshop Session III:**
- **Workshop Session IV**
- **Also available**
 - Conference Participant List